

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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1. **(currently amended)** A channel assignment method for multi-FA (Frequency Assignment) CDMA cellular systems in which a base station communicates a plurality of mobile stations, said method comprising the steps of:

comparing a first threshold value with received power when the base station receives a new call ~~request~~ request;

31 assigning a first traffic channel in a first FA of the request, if the received power is less than the first threshold value, [[and]] otherwise searching for a second FA of which received power is least, ~~if not~~;

comparing a second threshold value with the received power of the second FA; and

assigning a second traffic channel in the second FA if the ~~strength of~~ received power is less than the second threshold value, [[and]] otherwise rejecting the request, ~~if not~~.

2. **(Original)** The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of assigning a traffic channel in the first FA of the request, if there is an available channel when a base station receives a handoff call request.

3-8. **(canceled)**

9. **(new)** A channel assignment method for use in a multi-FA (Frequency Assignment) CDMA cellular system in which a base station communicates a plurality of mobile

stations, said method comprising the steps of:

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- a. receiving, at said base station, a new call request from a mobile station in a first FA;
  - b. determining a level of power received at said base station in said first FA as first FA received power;
  - c. comparing a first threshold value with the first FA received power;
  - d. d.i. if the first FA received power is less than the first threshold value, assigning a first traffic channel in said first FA to said mobile station in response to said new call request;
  - d.ii. if the first FA received power is not less than the first threshold value,
    - d.ii.1. determining levels of power received at said base station in FAs other than said first FA;
    - d.ii.2. among said other FAs, determining the FA having the lowest level of power received at said base station as a second FA, and said lowest level as second FA received power;
    - d.ii.3. comparing a second threshold value with the second FA received power;
    - d.ii.4. if the second FA received power is less than the second threshold value, assigning a second traffic channel in said second FA to said mobile station in response to said new call request; otherwise, rejecting said new call request,

10. (new) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of assigning a traffic channel in the first FA of the request, if there is an available channel when a base station receives a handoff call request.